

# Morning Prayer

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 21, Year A September 27, 2020

### The Bell of St. Peter's

Jeff Mitchell, bell-ringer

*The Officiant begins the service with the following sentences of Scripture.*

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalm 122:1*

*The Officiant says to the people*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor .

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Officiant leads the people in prayer.*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*The Priest alone stands in body or in spirit and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

*A deacon or lay person using the preceding form remains kneeling, and substitutes "us" for "you" and "our" for "your."*

### The Invitatory and Psalter

*All stand in body or in spirit*

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

BCP 80

*The officiant leads the people in saying*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

*An Antiphon may be sung or said with the Invitatory Psalm.*

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

BCP 81

**Venite** *Psalm 95:1-7*

BCP 82

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**Hymn 685.** Rock of ages, cleft for me

Rock of ages cleft for me  
let me hide myself in thee  
Let the water and the blood  
From Thy riven side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure  
Save me from its guilt and power

Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill Thy law's demands  
Could my zeal no respite know  
Could my tears for ever flow  
All for sin could not atone  
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring  
Simply to Thy cross I cling  
Naked, come to Thee for dress  
Helpless, look to Thee for grace  
Foul, I to the fountain fly  
Wash me, Saviour, or I die

While I draw this fleeting breath  
When my eyes shall close in death  
When I soar to worlds unknown  
See Thee on Thy judgment throne  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in Thee.

## The Psalm appointed

### Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 *Attendite, popule*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, \*  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

*At the end of the Psalm is said*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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## The Lessons

*The first Lesson, as appointed, is read, the Reader first saying*

**A Reading from Exodus. (17:1-7)**

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

*After the Lesson, the Reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

BCP 84

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

*The following Canticle is said after the Reading.*

**Canticle E**

**A Song of Jerusalem Our Mother**

*Isaiah 66:10-14*

Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her \*  
all you who love her,  
Rejoice, rejoice with her, \*  
all you who mourn over her,  
That you may drink deeply with delight \*  
from her comforting breast.  
For thus says our God, \*  
"I will extend peace to her like a river,  
the wealth of nations like an overflowing stream.  
"You shall nurse and be carried on her arm, \*  
and you shall nestle in her lap.  
"As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; \*  
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.  
"You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, \*  
you shall flourish like the grass of the fields.

*The second Lesson, as appointed, is read, the Reader first saying*

A Reading from **Philippians. (2:1-13)**

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death--  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*After the Lesson, the Reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God

BCP 84

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

*The following Canticle is said after the Reading.*

**Canticle K**

**A Song of Our Adoption**

*Ephesians 1:3-10*

Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, \*  
for you have blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.  
Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, \*  
that we should be holy and blameless before you.  
You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, \*  
according to the good pleasure of your will,  
To the praise of your glorious grace, \*  
that you have freely given us in the Beloved.  
In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ, \*  
the forgiveness of our sins,  
According to the riches of your grace \*  
which you have lavished upon us.  
You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, \*  
the mystery of your will,  
According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, \*  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
To gather together all things in Christ, \*  
things in heaven and things on earth.

*Then, all standing in body or in spirit, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to **Matthew. (21:23-32)**

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon**

The Rev. Kristin P. R. Wickersham, Rector

*Silence may be kept.*

**The Apostles' Creed**

BCP 96

*Officiant and People together*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen

**The Prayers**

*The People stand or kneel, in body or in spirit*

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            And also with you.  
*Officiant*        Let us pray.

BCP 97

*Officiant and People*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*Then follows Suffrages (B) are read by the Officiant and the people, alternating. V is the Versicle and R is the Response.*

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance; BCP 98  
R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.  
V. Day by day we bless you;  
R. We praise your name for ever.  
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
R. For we put our trust in you.  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;  
R. And we shall never hope in vain.

*The Officiant then says the following Collect*

***Collect of the Day (Proper 21)*** BCP 234

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

***A Collect for Sundays*** BCP 98

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Officiant begins the Offertory with the following words*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

*Please consider supporting God's ministry through St. Peter's. Virtual offering plate -*  
[https://www.stpetersnewkent.org/Giving\\_Opportunities/Stewardship\\_Annual\\_Pledge/](https://www.stpetersnewkent.org/Giving_Opportunities/Stewardship_Annual_Pledge/)

## **Doxology**

*The Intercessor then says the following authorized prayers*

*Intercessor:* In turning to the ways of God our lives are saved from the grip of the Evil One, and the humility of love lightens our path. We offer our prayers, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

For the grace to move from grumbling to shared responsibility, from accusation to a search for truth, from humiliation and shame to God's compassion and mercy; let us pray



*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Intercessor:* That we may bear witness to the wonderful works of God, so that our children and the generations to come may walk in the path of faith and announce the mystery of faith through their lives; let us pray.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Intercessor:* That we may bend the knee of our hearts to those who live in despair and great need, knowing that they are Christ to us, a gift of the Holy Spirit who fills us with compassion and transforms the way we live; let us pray.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Intercessor:* For those who work at night, staying awake while others sleep, guarding our streets, and healing the sick, that they may labor in safety and receive the rest that prepares them for another round; let us pray.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Intercessor:* For our President his advisors, the members of Congress and the Supreme Court, that they may be honest and vigilant in their duties, knowing that their decisions affect the peoples of our land, and of the nations of the world; let us pray.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Intercessor:* For those who have died and now reside on another shore and in a greater light, that their faith may inspire our own, and their generosity encourage the way in which we use our gifts; let us pray.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Intercessor:* Let us continue our prayers for all who live in the shadows of life, and those who have commended themselves for our remembrance.

*(The people are invited add their own special intentions, thanksgivings, or intercessions, either silently or aloud.)*

*The Intercessor pauses to allow time for prayer.*

*The Intercessor continues*

We pray for the sick, and those recovering from surgery, especially Liam Simakhov and Emily Clay Evelyn.

In the Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan; and the Archbishop of the Province of Sudan & Bishop of Khartoum.

In the Virginia Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal House of Bishops.

## ***The Collect at the Prayers***

BCP 394

*The Officiant says the following Collect*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Before the close of the Office the following may be used.*

## **The Supplication**

BCP 154

*For use at the end of Morning Prayer especially in times of national anxiety, or of disaster.*

*Officiant* O Lord, arise, help us;  
*People* And deliver us for your Name's sake.

*Officiant* O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared to us, the noble works that you did in their days, and in the old time before them.

*People* O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for your Name's sake.

*Officiant* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, world without end. *Amen.*

*People* O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for your Name's sake.

*Then follows is read by the Officiant and the people, alternating. V is the Versicle and R is the Response read by the people.*

V. From our enemies defend us, O Christ;  
R. Graciously behold our afflictions.  
V. With pity behold the sorrows of our hearts;  
R. Mercifully forgive the sins of your people  
V. Favorably with mercy hear our prayers;  
R. O Son of David, have mercy upon us.  
V. Both now and ever condescend to hear us, O Christ;  
R. Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.

*the Officiant concludes*

Let us pray.

We humbly beseech you, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of your Name, turn from us all those evils that we most justly have deserved; and grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in your mercy, and evermore serve you in holiness and pureness of living, to your honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Hymn.** WL&P 782. Gracious Spirit, give your servants

Gracious Spirit, give your servants  
joy to set sin's captives free,  
hope to heal the brokenhearted,  
peace to share love's liberty.  
Through us bring your balm of gladness  
to the wounded and oppressed;  
help us claim and show God's favor  
as a people called and blessed.

Word made flesh, who gave up glory  
to become our great high priest,  
taking on our human nature  
to redeem the last and least:  
let your courage and compassion  
shape and guide our ministries;  
as our Savior and our Shepherd,  
lead us to the truth that frees.

Loving God, who birthed creation  
from the nothingness of space,  
kindling life where all was empty,  
turning chaos into grace:  
when we feel confused and fruitless,  
dawn upon our restless night;  
give us faith's imagination,  
hope's renewing, love's delight.

Triune God, eternal Being,  
never ending, unbegun,  
boundless grace and perfect justice,  
righteous and forgiving One:  
so enfold us in your mercy  
that our wills and yours unite;  
through us may the world behold you,  
find your love, your truth, your light

*Then may be said*

*Officiant*        Let us bless the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

BCP 102

*The Officiant may then conclude with the following*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*  
-Romans 15:13

**Episcopal** means “of or relating to a bishop, or of, having, or constituting government by bishops.” It comes from Middle French episcopal, from Late Latin episcopalis, from Latin episcopus, and from Greek episkopos, meaning one who oversees. The Episcopal Church (TEC) is a member church of the worldwide Anglican Communion, and is comprised of 100 dioceses in the United States, each led by a bishop. TEC also includes eleven dioceses in outlying US Territories as well as other countries.

The Anglican Communion is the gathering of Anglican and Episcopal churches from around the world who are in communion with the See of Canterbury (in England). The Anglican Communion is the third largest Christian communion in the world, after the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church. It includes 85 million people in over 165 countries.

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## **An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism**

### **The Holy Spirit**

Q. What is the Holy Spirit?

A. The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity, God at work in the world and in the Church even now.

Q. How is the Holy Spirit revealed in the Old Covenant?

A. The Holy Spirit is revealed in the Old Covenant as the giver of life, the One who spoke through the prophets.

Q. How is the Holy Spirit revealed in the New Covenant?

A. The Holy Spirit is revealed as the Lord who leads us into all truth and enables us to grow in the likeness of Christ.

Q. How do we recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

A. We recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit when we confess Jesus Christ as Lord and are brought into love

and harmony with God, with ourselves, with our neighbors, and with all creation.

- Q. How do we recognize the truths taught by the Holy Spirit?
- A. We recognize truths to be taught by the Holy Spirit when they are in accord with the Scriptures.

**St. Peter's Parish Church**

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<i>Parish Administrator</i>	Sherr Hardiman
<i>Sexton</i>	Brenda Clark
<i>The Vestry</i>	Sheila Mitchell, Senior Warden Jess Fowler, Junior Warden Scott Adams Mary Margaret Gillette Kendall Hatley Lori Janke Bruce Lange Joyce Peterson Lee Tyson
<i>Treasurer</i>	Stuart Burnett
<i>Register</i>	Ann Bradshaw